



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )  
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NAKAMURA et al. )  
 )  
Application Number: 10/090,767 ) Art Unit 2157  
 )  
Filed: March 6, 2002 ) Examiner Emmanuel Coffy  
 )  
For: CLUSTERING DISK CONTROLLER, ITS DISK )  
CONTROL UNIT AND LOAD BALANCING )  
METHOD OF THE UNIT )  
 )  
Attorney Docket No. HITA. 0181 )  
 )  
Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 22, 2005, the period for response to which is set to expire on May 22, 2005. Please amend the above-referenced application as follows: